



**ESCWA**

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

# REVIEW OF ACTIONS TAKEN IN THE FIELD OF WATER RESOURCES SINCE THE NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES

## IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER RESOURCES-RELATED ACTIVITIES UNDER THE ESCWA PROGRAMME OF WORK

**Carol Chouchani Cherfane**  
Chief, Water Resources Section

Sustainable Development & Productivity Division

Committee on Water Resources – 10<sup>th</sup> Session – Beirut, 20-22 March 2013



# Expected Accomplishments



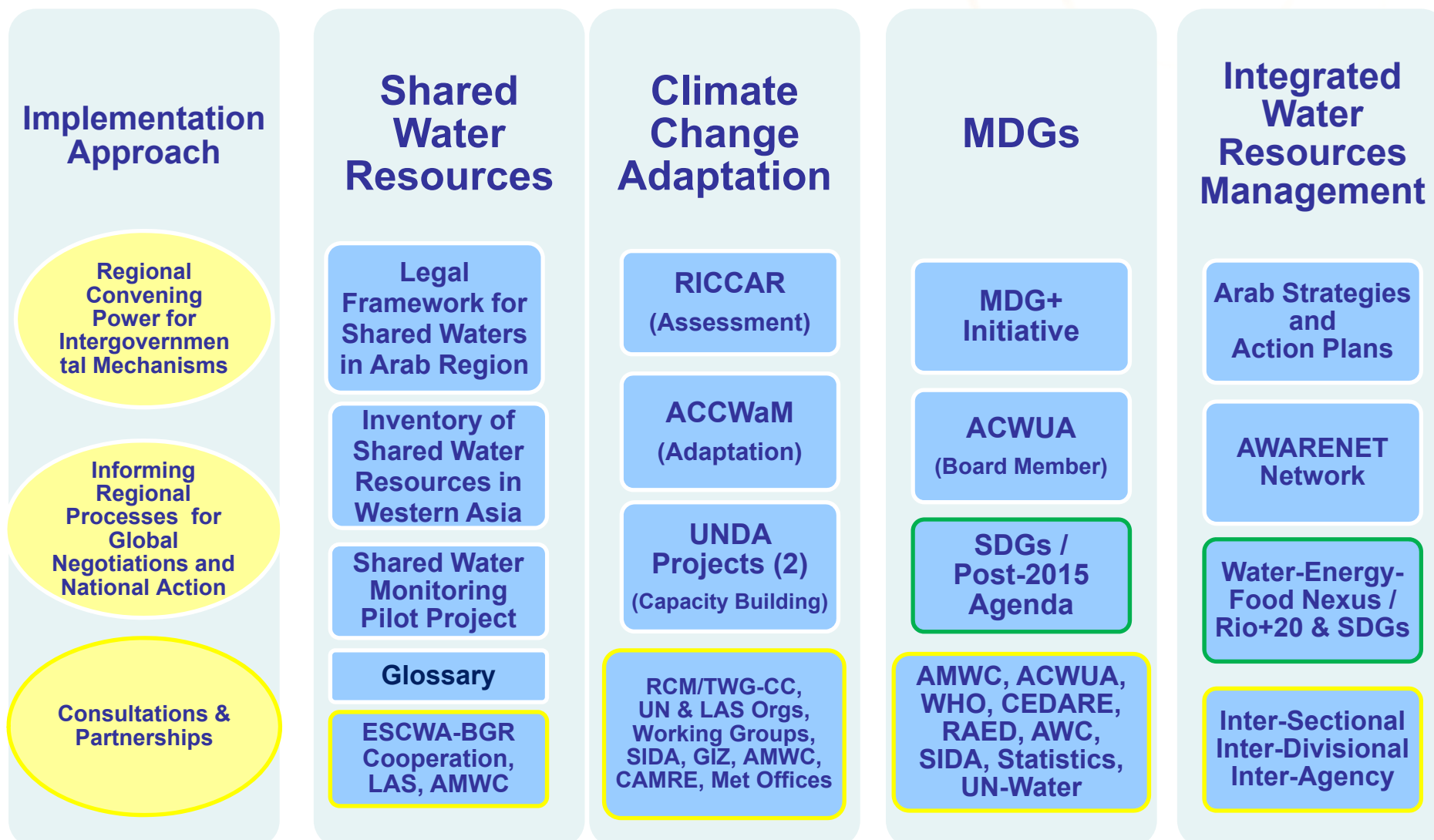
## Biennium 2010-2011

- ❖ Enhanced capacity of MCs to formulate, adopt and implement policies and measures to improve the **sustainable management of natural resources**, with particular emphasis on fulfilling the **MDGs and addressing climate change challenges**.
- ❖ Strengthening south-south cooperation in the **integrated management of natural resources**, with a focus on challenges related to **water, energy & climate change**.

## Biennium 2012-2013

- ❖ Enhanced technical, human, and institutional capacities of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional, and regional policies, strategies and action plans for the **sustainable management of energy and water resources** in line with the **Johannesburg Plan of Implementation**.
- ❖ Enhanced capacity of governments and other public and private stakeholders to incorporate **climate change responses into sectoral strategies and plans**, and to stimulate **financial and technical supports for the inclusion of climate change** issues into plans and strategies.
- ❖ Strengthened capacity in member countries to develop and apply best practices and plans for improving sustainable agriculture and rural livelihood and increasing the productivity and competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises, in support of **achieving the MDGs**.

# Water Resources Section



Programme mandated by

**ESCWA Committee on Water Resources & Arab Ministerial Water Council**

## Legal Framework for Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region

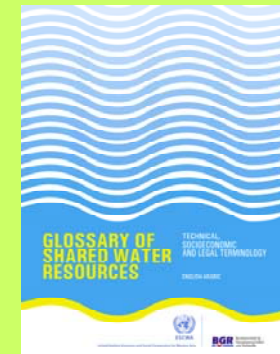
الاتفاقية الخاصة بالموارد المائية المشتركة بين الدول العربية

## Inventory on Shared Water Resources in Western Asia

دراسة مسح الموارد المائية المشتركة في غربي اسيا

## Monitoring of Shared Water Resources: Disi Aquifer Groundwater Monitoring Station ESCWA-BGR Cooperation

## “Glossary of Shared Water Resources, Technical, Socio-Economic and Legal Terminology” (E/ESCWA/SDPD/2012/Glossary) ESCWA-BGR Cooperation



# Climate Change Adaptation

التكيف مع تغيّر المناخ



Climate Change Assessment for informing Climate Change Adaptation

National Adaptation Strategies, Action Plans, Policies & Measures

Arab Water  
Security Strategy &  
Action Plan

UNDA  
Climate Change  
Adaptation &  
IWRM Tools

UNDA  
Drought  
Preparedness &  
Water Scarcity

EGMs &  
Workshops

RICCAR

Regional  
Knowledge  
Hub

SIDA Project

GIZ/ACCWaM  
Project

# RICCAR EGMs & Workshops



## RICCAR Regional Expert Group Meetings

- EGM1 (Beirut, June 2009)
- EGM 2 (Beirut, Nov 2010)
- EGM 3 (Beirut, July 2011)
- EGM 4 (Beirut, July 2012)
- *EGM 5 (tbd, Oct/Nov 2013)*

*Convened by  
ESCWA, LAS, UNEP/ROWA*

## Regional Workshops (SIDA project)

- **Regional Workshop 1:**  
Meteorological Offices  
(Casablanca, March 2012)
- **Regional Workshop 2:**  
Water & Environment  
Ministries (Beirut, July 2012)
- **National Workshops/  
Disaster Loss Inventories**  
(Tunisia, Aug 2012)
- **Regional Workshop 3**  
(Beirut/tbd, June 2013)

*VA Methodology Training Workshop  
(adelphi/GIZ; Sept/Oct 2013)*

# RICCAR Working Groups



## Vulnerability Assessment Working Group

- **Mr. Deeb Abdelghafour**, Palestinian Water Authority - Palestine
- **Ms. Monia Braham** - Ministry of Environment - Tunisia
- **Mr. Ali Eddenjal** - National Meteorological Center - Libya
- **Mr. Tarek Abdel-Aziz** - National Water Research Center, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation - Egypt
- **Mr. Ashraf Nour EIDin Shalaby**, Senior Expert on Meteorology and Climate Change, LAS
- **Mr. Ihab Jnad**, Water Department, Arab Centre for the Studies of Arid Zones and Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD)
- **Ms. Sabah Aljenaid**, Desert and Arid Zone Programme (GIS & Environment Expert), Arab Gulf University - Bahrain
- **Mr. Nadim Farajalla**, Climate Change and Environment in the Arab World Program/AUB; AWARENET - Lebanon
- **Mr. Fouad AbouSamra**, UNEP/ROWA - Bahrain
- **Mr. Abdelaziz Zaki**, UNESCO-Cairo Office
- **Ms. Noha Al-Homsi**, World Health Organization - Lebanon
- **Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane**, ESCWA
- **Mr. Matthias Bartels**, ACCWaM, GIZ)- Cairo
- **Mr. Mohamed Abdrabo**, Alexandria Research Center for Adaptation to Climate Change , Univ. of Alexandria - Egypt

Mr. Richard McDonnell, International Center for

## Regional Knowledge Hub Working Group

- **Mr. Mohamed Shamsan Ghaleb**, Ministry of Water and Environment - Yemen
- **Ms. Zeina Mjdalani**, Technical Office of the Prime Minister - Lebanon
- **Mr. Mohammad Abu Baker**, Palestinian Meteorological Office - Palestine
- **Mr. Ashraf Nour EIDin Shalaby**, Senior Expert on Meteorology and Climate Change, LAS
- **Mr. Khaled Mawed**, Head, Climate Unit, Water Department, ACSAD
- **Mr. Khaled Abu-Zeid**, Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) - Egypt
- **Mr. Walid Saleh**, UNU Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) - UAE
- **Mr. Ragy Saro**, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) - Cairo
- **Mr. Tarek Sadek**, ESCWA
- **Mr. Abdullallah Droubi**, ACCWaM, GIZ

*Working Groups technically supported by adelphi (through GIZ consultancy)*

# MDGs: Water Supply & Sanitation

الأهداف الإنمائية للألفية



## MDG+ Initiative

- UN Resolutions on MDGs+ Human Rights
- AMWC Resolutions
- Questionnaire Template
- SIDA Funding
- MDG+ Unit at ACWUA
- Advisory Board
- National Focal Points
- Training Manual
- Launching Workshop preparations

## ACWUA

- GIZ-ESCWA Cooperation support concluded
- Stand-alone, independent association
- Arab Water Week (2010, 2013) – Scientific Committee
- ESCWA elected to serve on ACWUA Board of Directors in January 2013
- ACWUA participated in UN-Water/Zaragoza

## SDGs / Post-2015 Agenda

- ESCWA contributing to both processes.
- SDGs called for in Rio+20 outcome.
- MDG+ Indicators informing discussions about regional-specific approaches for pursuing SDGs
- ESCWA advising member states & contributing to global deliberations (e.g., through UN-Water)



## **Supporting Arab Strategies & Action Plans via LAS**

**Arab Water Security Strategy and Action Plan  
AMWC (2012)**

**Arab Framework Action Plan on Climate Change  
CAMRE (2012)**

**Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction & Action Plan  
CAMRE (2010)**

**Supporting National Strategies & Action Plans through  
Technical Cooperation & Advisory Services**

## Arab Integrated Water Resources Management Network (AWARENET)

- **ESCWA serves as Secretariat.**
- **Secretariat has served its membership by:**
  - ✓ Announcing capacity building opportunities
  - ✓ Vetting candidates for fellowships to participate in training workshops
  - ✓ Disseminating funding and research opportunities
  - ✓ Circulating announcements on upcoming meeting and conferences
  - ✓ Announcing job opportunities
- **Communications component:**
  - Website being redesigned
  - Country-specific web pages being considered, with IWRM information
  - On-line networking

*Membership form provided*

## Water-Energy-Food Nexus

### الترايط بين قطاعي المياه والطاقة

- Arab Food Security conference (Beirut, February 2012)
- Re-sources seminar (Abu Dhabi, March 2012)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Gulf Water Conference/WSTA (Doha, April 2012)
- Intergovernmental Consultative Meeting on Water-Energy Nexus (June 2012)
- Requires inter-agency, inter-divisional, inter-sectional coordination
- UN Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Food Security

### Emerging Issue

Priority Thematic Area in ESCWA's  
2014-2015 biennium work programme  
and within context of the  
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Arab Regional Implementation Meeting: LAS-ESCWA-UNEP/ROWA (Cairo, October 2011)
- Global Preparatory Committee meetings
- Regional and national consultations and workshops on Green Economy, Institutions for Sustainable Development
- Rio+20 (Rio de Janeiro, June 2012)
- Follow-up on Rio+20 outcome document and formulation of Sustainable Development Goals
- Link to work on MDG+ Initiative on regional-specific water supply & sanitation indicators



***Thank you!***